

**Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians  
Natural Resource Commission  
1st Quarterly Report  
January – February – March  
2017**



Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians  
Natural Resource Commission

William McNamara, Chairman  
Renee Dillard, Vice-Chairman  
Frederick Holdorph, Treasurer  
Kevin Gasco, Secretary  
John Keshick III, Commissioner

## 1<sup>st</sup> Quarterly Report 2017

The Natural Resource Commission is continuing to work on the Great Lakes Consent Decree for 2020 to define specific issues in areas of the Decree that were not completely specified or clarified at the time of signing the Decree in 2000. Many of these issues have arisen from implementation of the 2000 Consent Decree and the changes of Whitefish or lack of Whitefish and Lake Trout being abundant.

The importance of the upcoming Great Lakes Consent Decree is a 20 year Decree and the current Decree will expire in 2020. There are many important changes that have had a great effect on LTBB Commercial Fishermen in the last 17 years that will need to be addressed in the upcoming 2020 Decree.

The Natural Resource Commission and the Natural Resource Department continue to lead in the enforcement, conservation and management of tribal natural resources by successfully and responsibly preserving the LTBB's sovereign right to hunt and fish, both on the inland lands and waters as well as commercial and subsistence fishing on the 1836 Great Lakes. Utilize our natural resources in order to promote, honor and respect our traditional, spiritual and physical relationship with the land and waters for the future benefit of our Tribe.

### **LTBB Natural Resource Commission Meeting Schedule**

- January 17, 2017 Regular Scheduled Meeting
- January 25, 2017 Regular Scheduled Meeting
- January 26, 2017 CORA Meeting, Gaylord, MI
- February 8, 2017 Regular Scheduled Meeting
- February 22, 2017 Regular Scheduled Meeting
- February 23, 2017 CORA Meeting, Gaylord, MI
- March 8, 2017 Regular Scheduled Meeting
- March 17, 2017 CORA Meeting, Gaylord, MI
- March 22, 2017 Regular Scheduled Meeting

The Natural Resource Department is comprised of 4 divisions: Conservation Law Enforcement; Great Lakes Fisheries; Inland Fisheries and Inland Wildlife. The Natural Resource Commission and the Natural Resource Department assist in the development of Policies that have become necessary for the implementation of the Inland Consent Decree. Some of those policies developed are for species that LTBB has a season for such as the Bear Policy and Elk Policy. The Natural Resource Protection Statute is developed to assist the LTBB Conservation Officers in the field and to allow for Conservation Officers to have the authority to check persons in the field

to ensure that they are abiding by the rules and regulations. The Natural Resource Protection Statute will allow for Conservation Officers to check ID's and Licenses of persons encountered in the field to determine tribal jurisdiction vs. State hunters and fishers.

➤ **Annual Fishing & Hunting Membership Meeting**

- The Annual Hunting and Fishing meeting has been discussed and a date and location has been selected and will be held in Escanaba, MI on April 8, 2017.
- The Annual Meeting is conducted in different geographical areas where there is a LTBB membership population. The Annual Meeting is always an informative meeting with the different departments presenting power point presentations that give membership a chance to see projects that the Department has been involved in for the last year. Each department is prepared to present on their progress of the Grants the tribe has been awarded and the work that has been accomplished utilizing the Grant Monies provided as well as requirements of the Great Lakes Decree and the Inland Decree.

LTBB Natural Resource Commissioners

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The Natural Resource Commission would like to thank Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Tribal Council for their appointments to the Natural Resource Commission.